

with a dissertation titled: "The Role of the College President." Later, he completed Harvard University's Institute of Educational Management for Executive Management.

I appreciate Dr. Smith for taking the time to be with us today, and thank him for his thoughtful prayer and the kind words he shared.

**SALUTING SERVICE ACADEMY
STUDENTS—CHRISTOPHER GORDON**

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary group of young men and women who have been chosen as future leaders in our armed forces by the prestigious United States service academies. It is a privilege to send such a fine group from the third district of Texas to pursue a world-class education and serve our nation.

As we keep them and their families in our prayers, may we never forget the sacrifices they are preparing to make while defending our freedoms all across the globe. I am so proud of each one. God bless them and God bless America.

Today I salute Christopher Gordon, a United States Military Academy Appointee. Christopher spent the past year at Boston University studying for Mechanical Engineering on an AROTC Scholarship. He is a 2010 graduate of Plano West Senior High where he played varsity soccer as the goalkeeper and participated in JROTC Rifle Team. Christopher also participated in Army JROTC as a platoon leader, served as a member of the patriot booster club, and holds the rank of Eagle Scout within the Boy Scouts of America. Christopher aspires to serve his country and foster a career as an officer in the Army Special Forces. Christopher believes that West Point leadership education will provide him with the proper tools to learn more and more about what it is to be a better, more effective leader.

RON POWELL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY WITH THE UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2011

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sincerity that I take this opportunity to honor and congratulate Ronald E. Powell, who is celebrating fifty years of service with the United Food and Commercial Workers Inter-

national Union (UFCW) Local 881. For nearly five decades, Ron has dedicated his life's work to the American Labor Movement and has been able to touch the lives of countless workers, families, and communities across the nation. In honor of Ron's fifty years of service, a celebratory reception will be held on June 16, 2011, at Gibson's Steakhouse in Chicago, Illinois.

Ronald Powell began his career with the UFCW in 1961 when he was hired on as a Field Representative for Local 881. Because of his true dedication and strong leadership skills, he was promoted in 1968 to Field Staff Supervisor, and was then appointed Vice President/Director of Field Operations in 1973. In 1983, Ron's hard work and success led him to become President of Local 881. Under Ron's leadership, Local 881 has become an exemplary organization, providing exceptional service in the areas of work-site representation, membership services, benefits, communications, and activities.

In addition to his impressive career with Local 881, Ron serves as a Vice President on the UFCW International Executive Board, and is a Vice President for the Illinois State AFL-CIO. Ron also currently serves as a Trustee for the UFCW Midwest Pension Benefits Fund. In 2010, he was appointed by Governor Pat Quinn to serve on the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority Board. Ron is also a past member of the Board of Directors for the International Employee Benefits Foundation and is the former Chairman of the Illinois State Investment Board. Ron's passion and unwavering devotion to the UFCW and its members is unmatched and he is to be commended.

Ron selflessly gives of his time to many charitable organizations and has been a dynamic force in promoting the union's involvement in numerous civic endeavors. He has been a tremendous asset to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and has helped to raise funds to facilitate research toward finding a cure. He also initiated fundraising campaigns for the Jackson Park Hospital and the Little City Foundation and is a former board member for the United Way of Illinois and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois. Although Ron has served the UFCW and his community with complete dedication, it is his commitment to his family that is most impressive. Ron and his wonderful wife, Lois, have four beloved children and twelve grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Mr. Ronald Powell as he is honored for his lifetime of service and dedication to the UFCW, as well as the state of Illinois, Northwest Indiana, and communities nationwide. Ron's complete dedication and uncompromising loyalty are to be admired and he is worthy of the highest praise.

"CAN WE AFFORD THE MILITARY BUDGET?"

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, a leading conservative policy analyst, Bruce Bartlett, on June 14th published a compelling analysis of the great disparity that exists in military spending in the world as a percentage of gross domestic product. Building on the speech Secretary of Defense Gates gave last week, which Mr. Bartlett correctly describes as a speech "in which he berated our allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization for not carrying their weight in terms of providing resources for the common defense," Mr. Bartlett offers a very important chart. As he notes, it shows "that in 2010, the United States spent 5.4 percent of its gross domestic product on its military—twice as much as spent by Britain and three to four times as much as most of our NATO allies . . ." Mr. Bartlett notes that simply talking about percentages understates the disparity between our military spending and that of the rest of the world—"because the United States has the world's largest economy, its share of world military spending is outsized, accounting for 43 percent of all the military spending on Earth—six times as much as China . . ."

Mr. Bartlett correctly closes by noting that "With polls showing declining support for the war in Afghanistan and increasing talk in Congress, even among Republicans, about cutting the military budget," it is time for us to rethink our worldwide military commitments, and find ways in which we can reduce military spending so that we fully protect the legitimate interests of the United States, but end a situation in which military spending makes impossible demands on any effort to reduce the deficit.

CAN WE AFFORD THE MILITARY BUDGET?

(By Bruce Bartlett)

Bruce Bartlett held senior policy roles in the Reagan and George H.W. Bush administrations and served on the staffs of Representatives Jack Kemp and Ron Paul.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates gave a speech in Brussels on Friday in which he berated our allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization for not carrying their weight in terms of providing resources for the common defense. "For all but a handful of allies, defense budgets—in absolute terms, as a share of economic output—have been chronically starved for adequate funding for a long time, with the shortfalls compounding on themselves each year," Mr. Gates said.

An examination of the latest NATO data shows that in 2010, the United States spent 5.4 percent of its gross domestic product on its military—twice as much as spent by Britain and three to four times as much as most of our NATO allies, as shown in the following table.

MILITARY EXPENDITURES AS A PERCENTAGE OF G.D.P. IN NATO

Country	1985–89, average	2010	Country	1985–89, average	2010
U.S.	6.0	5.4	Norway	2.9	1.5
Greece	4.5	2.9	Czech Rep.	--	1.4
Britain	4.4	2.7	Denmark	2.0	1.4
Albania	--	2.0	Germany	2.9	1.4
France	3.7	2.0	Italy	2.2	1.4
Poland	--	1.9	Netherlands	2.8	1.4
Turkey	2.5	1.9	Romania	--	1.3
Estonia	--	1.8	Slovak Rep.	--	1.3

MILITARY EXPENDITURES AS A PERCENTAGE OF G.D.P. IN NATO—Continued

Country	1985–89, average	2010	Country	1985–89, average	2010
Bulgaria	--	1.7	Belgium	2.7	1.1
NATO—Europe	3.1	1.7	Hungary	--	1.1
Portugal	2.5	1.6	Spain	2.1	1.1
Slovenia	--	1.6	Latvia	--	1.0
Canada	2.1	1.5	Lithuania	--	0.9
Croatia	--	1.5	Luxembourg	0.8	0.5

North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

A crucial reason for this gap is that the United States spends almost as much today as it did during the Cold War. Every other NATO country spends substantially less.

Secretary Gates also made another point about military spending by our allies: they spend much more on personnel and less on equipment than the United States. “The result is that investment accounts for future modernization and other capabilities not directly related to Afghanistan are being squeezed out—as we are seeing today over Libya,” he cautioned.

According to NATO, the United States spends 46.7 percent of its military budget on

personnel. All but five other NATO countries spend more—often considerably more. The average for all NATO countries other than the United States is 56.7 percent of their military budgets spent on personnel, with a number of countries spending two-thirds to three-quarters.

Consequently, there is little money left over for equipment. The United States spends 24.2 percent of its military budget on equipment and only five NATO countries spend more. The average for all NATO countries other than the United States is 16.7 percent of military spending going to equip-

ment, with a number of countries spending less than 10 percent.

But what about our adversaries? Don't we need to maintain a high level of military spending to counter the capabilities of countries like Russia and China?

For those data, we need to look to a different source. According to the latest yearbook from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, the standard non-classified source, Russia spent 4.3 percent of its G.D.P. on military outlays in 2009, down from 15.8 percent in 1988; China spent just 2.2 percent of its G.D.P. on the military budget, about the same as it has been since 1989.

MILITARY SPENDING IN SELECTED NON-NATO COUNTRIES, 2009

Country	Spending (mil- lions, \$U.S.)	% of G.D.P.	Country	Spending (mil- lions, \$U.S.)	% of G.D.P.
Australia	18,963	1.9	Japan	51,008	1.0
China	110,100	2.2	South Korea	24,372	2.9
Cuba	2,249	n/a	Libya (2008)	1,100	1.2
Egypt	4,017	2.1	Pakistan	5,039	2.8
India	35,819	2.8	Russia	53,300	4.3
Iran (2008)	7,044	1.8	Saudi Arabia	41,273	11.2
Israel	12,373	6.3	United States	668,604	4.7

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

The institute notes that the United States accounted for virtually all of the increase in world military spending in 2010.

And because the United States has the world's largest economy, its share of world military spending is outsized, accounting for 43 percent of all the military spending on Earth—six times as much as China, which has the world's second largest military budget and accounts for 7.3 percent of world military spending. Russia accounts for just 3.6 percent.

With polls showing declining support for the war in Afghanistan and increasing talk in Congress, even among Republicans, about cutting the military budget, it appears certain that the Defense Department is going to be downsized and our foreign military commitments scaled back in coming years.

This is going to require serious rethinking of what we perceive to be our strategic threats and whether the United States can continue to afford to be the world's peacekeeper.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2112) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to the FY12 Agriculture Appropriations Bill. This measure does not reflect the needs of our constituents, nor the values of our esteemed body.

In Rhode Island, we have the third highest unemployment rate in the nation, and during the past several years our families have dealt with job losses, higher food prices, and turmoil in the housing market.

I have made many visits to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank and have seen the great work they and many other wonderful organizations in our state do to help our families. I have spoken with the working families who are not proud to accept this assistance, but have no better option and need to use all resources available to feed their children.

That is why I am disappointed that this measure includes \$2 billion less than the President's request for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP. This measure also cuts the Emergency Food Assistance Program, or TEFAP, by \$12 million.

While my colleagues in the majority have touted cuts in this bill that are fiscally responsible, I would like to highlight what would happen if we cut and not maintain these programs.

Four years ago, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank served 80,000 SNAP beneficiaries. This month, they are serving 162,000 Rhode Islanders.

Four years ago, they served 30,000 Rhode Islanders through TEFAP. Now they serve 60,000.

If these funding levels are signed into law, the impact to the Rhode Island families most affected by the economic downturn will be devastating.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this measure, and support legislation that reflects the needs of our constituents and communities

who are continuing to feel the effects of the recession.

HONORING LOVIE MAE KAZEE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Lovie Mae Kazee who will turn 95 on July 1, 2011.

Ms. Lovie Mae Walker Kazee was born July 1, 1916 to Bob and Gertie Walker in Hearne, Texas. She married Lueranze Kazee on November, 3, 1932 in Marland, Texas. They moved to Dallas in 1944, where she began work as the housekeeper and nanny for The Richard Gump family. She served in that capacity for over 50 years. She retired in 1997 to care for her ailing husband who passed away in 1999 after 67 and a half years of marriage.

To this union 10 children, 27 grandchildren, 78 great grandchildren, 138 great great grandchildren and 3 great great great grandchildren have been born. She is blessed to have 5 generations of heirs celebrating her birth.

Ms. Lovie attributes her longevity to living a faithful Christian life, putting God first in all that she does, never drinking alcohol, nor smoking and remaining physically active.

Ms. Lovie has never been sick and remains an active member of Dallas West Church of Christ. She is the last of the original eight founding members of the congregation, which was started in 1947 and presently meets at 3510 North Hampton Road, Dallas, Texas. Elder Sam Berry is the ministering servant.